is not possible to correctly segregate the cost over-run of the CRM Complex alone.

(b) Delay in release of drawings by the Consultant, inadequate mobilization of resources by various agencies and delayed, non-sequential and defective supply of equipment by suppliers are the major reasons of delay the commissioning the Cold Rolling Mill.

Code of conduct for the Press

344. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requested the Press Council of India to lay down a code of conduct for the Press; and

(b) if so, the response of the Commission to the Government request?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Government have brought to the notice of the Press Council the observations of the Justice Thakkar-Natarajan Commission on the role of the media. It was *inter-alia* stated by the Commission that the time is more than ripe for the media to evolve a code of conduct for itself in consultation with the conscience, keeping in mind the larger perspective of National Interest, realizing the need here that under Section 13(1) and Section 13(2)(b) of the Press Council Act, 1978 it is charged with the responsibility 'to build up a code of conduct for newspapers, news agencies and journalists in accordance with the high professional ethics'.

The Press Council is not in favour of laying down a code of conduct for the Press, but feels that such a code should be build up on a case-to-case basis.

Working of the steel stockyards in the country

345. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel Chamber of India has requested Government to streamline the working of the steel stockyards in the country and to appoint a committee to go into the working of these stockyards; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the said suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government does not consider, it necessary to appoint a Committee to look into the working of stockyards. However, the working of the distribution system including the stockyards is under constant review by the Government.

Development of agro-based industries

346. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to boost up the grass-root agro-based industries to generate additional income and employment in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has so far been promoting 26 village industries and khadi which include food processing industries such as processing of cereals and pulses, extraction of oil